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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Eastern Germany For Release 2003/08/06 : CIA-RDP82-00457R013800240006-1

TOPIC Military Information from the Ohrdruf Troop Training Grounds and Vicinity

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 28 June and 17 July 1952

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

20 August 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 9 July 1952, all quarters of the Ohrdruf (M 51/J 15) troop training grounds were occupied to capacity. The hutment northwest of Crawlinkel quartered soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, while the quarters on the northeast border of Ohrdruf quartered personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia, artillery insignia and motor transport insignia. Most of the troops from the quarters on the northeast border were young soldiers with closely cropped hair. Four T-34/85 tanks proceeded from Ohrdruf toward Woelfis on 3 July. Training in firing was performed near the hutment in Crawlinkel. Thirteen T-34 tanks were seen in the Langerod camp section. On 7 July, four field kitchens were seen catering to 100 soldiers each in the camp sections in Oberer Erlebach and Koernershoehe. Eight T-34/85 tanks drove from the tank parking lot west of the swimming pool in Woelfis to the troop training grounds. installations on the northeastern edge of

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2. During the period from 1 to 8 p.m. on 28 and 29 June 1952, about 150 T-34 and JS-tanks and SU 100 guns, about 50 four-wheel guns towed by caterpillar tractors with dismounted crews, 30 x 152 mm field howitzers, and numerous 47-mm and 100-mm AT guns towed by trucks were seen practicing cross country driving and training with weapons.

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3. In late June, farmers saw a tent camp sheltering about 500 soldiers and an undetermined number of T-34 tanks and guns on the Fahner Hoehe (hill), northwest of Gotha and west of Gierstaedt.

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4. On 17 July, a new tent camp was seen 1 km north of the Altes Lager in Ohrdruf. Half-track vehicles occupied by soldiers performed driving practice there.

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\* Comment. This information confirms the bulk of the 39th Itz Rifle Div and the 20th Gds -ccz Div stationed at the Ohrdruf troop training grounds. The two divisions are also indicated by the motor vehicle most of which are still old. Headquarters units of the XXVIII Gds Itz Rifle Corps are also believed stationed in Ohrdruf; however,

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\*\* Comment. The tent camp on Fahner Moche is reported for the first time.

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\*\*\* Comment. The new tent camp north of Altes Lager in Ohrdruf is reported for the first time.

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